



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

**In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful**

25 August 2026

**Excellency,**

I wish to draw your urgent attention, and, through you, that of the members of the Security Council and the wider United Nations membership, to the latest act of state terrorism announced by the United States on 24 August 2026 under the code “Operation Economic Outcast.” Following the failure of the US and the Israeli regime in achieving their criminal objectives during two wars of aggression in 2025 and 2026 against Iran, and following their failure to induce other states to participate in their wars of choice, the US has decided to pursue that unlawful objective, *i.e.* compelling other sovereign states to abandon their prudent decision to abstain from joining an act of aggression, by coercing them to engage in an “operation of economic terrorism.” For all its disdain for multilateralism, diplomacy, and consultation, the US apparently adores coercion.

The publicly stated objective of the so-called “operation” is to terminate lawful economic relations with Iran, backed by threats of secondary sanctions and exclusion from the United States financial system. This objective constitutes an attempt to project United States law and foreign-policy choices extraterritorially to compel sovereign States to alter their lawful economic interests and trade relations. Such measures contravene the principles of sovereign equality enshrined in the UN Charter Article 2, paragraph 1, as well as the right of all States to determine their political, economic, and foreign policies free from coercive interference. Silence in the face of such systematic coercion risks further normalizing violations of the UN Charter and principles of international law, which form the cornerstones of international relations between sovereign States.

In this context, I wish to draw your kind attention to the following:

- The newly announced measures contemplate sanctions against persons and entities “regardless of where they are located,” constitute an attempt to extend United States law and policy beyond its legitimate jurisdiction and to subordinate the sovereign economic choices of other States to decisions taken unilaterally in Washington. Though repeated resort to such coercion cannot, through acquiescence or repetition, create a lawful entitlement to unlimited extraterritorial jurisdiction, the intention is to export United States restrictions throughout the global economy and to compel third States to implement policies they have neither adopted nor accepted.



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- The so-called “operation” is deliberately targeting civilians without discrimination and is designed to circumvent the protections accorded to them under international law. It imposes collective punishment through the intentional deprivation of access to food, medicines, medical equipment, energy and other necessities, with grave consequences for their rights to life, health, food and a decent standard of living. Bearing in mind its widespread and systematic nature, the criminal character of this terror “operation” should be addressed, as well as the individual criminal responsibility, under applicable international law, of those who order, direct, facilitate or knowingly implement such measures.
- The so-called “operation” constitutes a stark divergence from the dictum of the International Court of Justice and demonstrates the gravity of the violations being committed by the US against Iranian people, as the Court unanimously ordered on 3 October 2018 that the United States ensure the free exportation to Iran of “(i) medicines and medical devices; (ii) foodstuffs and agricultural commodities; and (iii) spare parts, equipment and associated services (including warranty, maintenance, repair services and inspections) necessary for the safety of civil aviation,” as well as the issuance of “licenses and necessary authorizations” and the facilitation of relevant payments and other transfers of funds.

**Excellency,**

This is the moment of truth for the Council and the wider membership of the United Nations; we either stand for the principles of sovereign equality, non-intervention and respect for the sovereign rights of States, as enshrined in the Charter, or yield to unilateralism and to the bullying of a rogue state. In view of the latest assault by the U.S. on the principles of the UN Charter and international law, the Islamic Republic of Iran calls on the Security Council and the wider UN membership to:

- Condemn and reject the use of unilateral coercive measures and secondary sanctions by the United States as instruments to compel sovereign States to alter their lawful economic interests and trade relations.
- Refrain from recognizing, endorsing, or implementing any such measures that seek to subordinate their sovereign rights to policies unilaterally determined by the United States.
- Urge the United States to immediately cease its threats and coercive measures designed to force third States and their nationals to alter their lawful economic relations and interests.



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Iran further requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to assess and report on the humanitarian and human-rights consequences of these measures, including their impact on civilians' access to food, medicines, health care, energy, transportation, humanitarian assistance and other conditions essential for a decent life, and to ensure that relevant evidence is independently assessed, documented and preserved for the purpose of future accountability.

Meanwhile, the Islamic Republic of Iran reserves its right to pursue all available avenues to seek accountability, reparation and redress, and to hold those responsible to account for the consequences of these inhumane and unlawful acts. The internationally wrongful act of the United States in implementing its economic terror campaign through unilateral coercive measures entails its international responsibility, including an obligation to provide full reparation for all damage caused, both material and moral, including but not limited to, restitution, compensation and satisfaction as required under international law. The United States bears full international responsibility and, where the applicable legal elements are established, individual criminal responsibility for all consequences of these unlawful criminal measures and the harm inflicted upon the Iranian people by this act of state terrorism.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

**Seyed Abbas Araghchi**  
**Minister for Foreign Affairs**

**H.E. Mr. António Guterres**  
**Secretary-General**  
**United Nations, New York**

**H.E. Ms. Christina Markus Lassen**  
**President of the Security Council**  
**United Nations, New York**

**Cc:**  
**Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member States of the United Nations**